GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3078
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
ENTRY OF MALE PASSENGERS IN WOMEN COACHES
Chaudhary Shri Pankaj

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that a large number of male passengers board the coaches reserved for women in E.M.U. trains particularly in the National Capital Region and misbehave with women causing great inconvenience to them;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of male passengers arrested for boarding the coaches reserved for women during the last six months and the action taken against them; and

(d) the measures taken by the Railways to check this practice?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir, Some sporadic incidents of male passengers traveling in ladies compartments in trains have come to notice.

During the period from 1st October 2005 to 31st March 2006, a total of 3521 male passengers were apprehended by Railway Protection Force (RPF) while travelling in ladies` compartments and prosecuted under the provisions of section 162 of the Railways Act, 1989 over Northern Railway. An amount of Rs.9,39,430/- has been realised from them as fine.

(d): The maintenance of law and order is a State subject and powers to register and investigate into Indian Penal Code (IPC) crimes are vested with State Police/ Government Railway Police (GRP). However, to provide better security to the traveling passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railways are supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways by deploying Railway Protection Force staff to escort trains.

Railway Protection Force staff, including the women Constables, assist the Government Railway Police (GRP) in escorting the ladies compartments in the affected sections, apart from manning the vulnerable stations. In addition, Special squads consisting of women Traveling Ticket Examiners (TTEs) (where available), women RPF staff (supported by male RPF and GRP where required) have been formed for better security of the lady passengers. These squads called Tejaswini, Surakshini, Durgawahini and Bhairavi in various `Railways patrol and conduct intensive checks in affected sections (mostly suburban) during the vulnerable non-peak hours.

RPF conducts regular drives under the provisions of the Railways Act, 1989 against male persons travelling in compartments reserved for women in Electric Multiple Units (EMU) trains.